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TWO NORTHEASTERN LAW STUDENTS AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS PEGGY BROWNING FELLOWSHIPS

Philadelphia, PA, May 5, 2015 - The Peggy Browning Fund has awarded 10-week summer fellowships to Stephanie Ainbinder and Sarah David Heydemann, law students attending Northeastern University School of Law. The application process is highly competitive, and the award is a tribute to their outstanding qualifications.

In 2015, the Peggy Browning Fund will support nearly 80 public interest labor law fellowships nationwide. With more than 400 applicants from 150 participating law schools, securing a Peggy Browning Fellowship is not an easy task. Peggy Browning Fellows are distinguished students who have not only excelled in law school but who have also demonstrated their commitment to workers’ rights through their previous educational, work, volunteer and personal experiences.

Stephanie Ainbinder (JD2017) will be a Peggy Browning Fellow at SEIU in Washington, DC. Stephanie graduated cum laude from Tulane University in 2011 with a bachelor’s degree in sociology and social policy & practice. She took on her first union job as an undergrad when she began working as an organizer for the United Labor Unions, Local 100 in New Orleans. After graduation, Stephanie moved to Boston and served for three years as the hospital and higher education campaign coordinator for the Massachusetts Building Trades Council, AFL-CIO. During her first year in Boston, Stephanie enhanced her skills as a community organizing fellow with the Jewish Organizing Institute and Network (JOIN) for Justice. Through her campaign and union work, Stephanie was exposed to the myriad ways in which the law can be used to rectify the power imbalance between employers and individual workers and is excited to continue that work with SEIU. She is a Public Interest Law Scholar at Northeastern and has been working with the Migrant Workers Justice Project.

Sarah David Heydemann (JD2016) will also be a Peggy Browning Fellow at SEIU in Washington, DC this summer. Sarah considers herself lucky to have spent the last decade working for economic justice with labor centers, workers centers, and unions on domestic and international campaigns. She spent her undergraduate years at Georgetown University fighting alongside campus workers for improved economic conditions and job security and then became a founding employee of the University’s first labor center. Most recently, at the National
Guestworker Alliance, she worked with international student visa holders in their fight against exploitative conditions at McDonald's. Her first legal internship was with the union-side law firm Cohen, Weiss and Simon, LLP in New York. Sarah says she is thrilled to have been placed with the SEIU Legal Department for her Peggy Browning Fellowship.

The Peggy Browning Fund is a not for-profit organization established in memory of Margaret A. Browning, a prominent union-side attorney who was a member of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) from 1994 until 1997. Peggy Browning Fellowships provide law students with unique, diverse and challenging work experiences fighting for social and economic justice. These experiences encourage and inspire students to pursue careers in public interest labor law.

To learn more about the Peggy Browning Fund, contact Mary Anne Moffa, Executive Director, by phone at 267-273-2992 or by email at mmoffa@peggybrowningfund.org, or visit www.peggybrowningfund.org.

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